

## 1.0 Introduction

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This Libby, MT Site (Site) Community Involvement Plan (CIP) has been prepared in accordance with the <u>Community Relations in Superfund</u>: <u>A Handbook</u>, Office of Emergency and Remedial Response, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), January 1992 (Handbook). The Handbook outlines the community involvement requirements stipulated in the Federal regulation that is commonly known as Superfund.

Superfund is the nation's program to clean up uncontrolled or abandoned hazardous waste sites. The Federal regulation that guides the Superfund program is the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), which was revised in 1990. The Superfund law, officially known as the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), was passed by Congress in 1980 and amended in 1986 by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). Superfund:

- Gives EPA the authority to stop releases or potential releases of hazardous substances;
- Enables EPA to compel those responsible for site contamination to pay for cleanup;
- Provides funding for cleanup when money from responsible parties is not available.

CERCLA requires the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), or the state at state-lead sites, to develop and manage community involvement programs at both fund-lead and enforcement-lead sites. At fund-lead sites, cleanup is paid for with Superfund money; at enforcement-lead sites, potentially responsible parties (PRPs) pay for cleanup. At either type of site, community involvement remains the responsibility of the EPA.

The CERCLA community involvement effort promotes two-way communication between members of the public and the lead government agency responsible for remedial actions. The overall objectives of CERCLA community involvement are as follows:

- Provide the public the opportunity to express comments on and provide input to technical decisions;
- Inform the public of planned and ongoing actions; and
- Identify and resolve conflicts.

EPA's community involvement activities will also address environmental justice issues. Specific environmental justice goals are:

- Raising awareness of equity issues to the remediation team;
- Reviewing past site procedures to determine whether changes need to be made in areas which would impact minorities; and
- Tailoring communications which are sensitive to the language and cultural differences of the community to assure that all citizens have equal opportunity to become involved in EPA's decision making process.

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### 1.1 Overview

This section contains an overview of the following programs and groups:

- Superfund Program emphasizing the Removal Program;
- · Relevant EPA groups; and
- · Other relevant government groups.

### **Superfund Program**

Under the Superfund program, EPA investigates hazardous waste sites and is authorized to conduct two types of response actions:

- Removal Actions are *short-term* actions designed to stabilize or clean up incidents involving hazardous substances that present an imminent threat to human health or the environment. Removal actions can last no longer than 12 months or cost no more than \$2 million, although exemptions may be granted if warranted.
- Remedial Actions are *long-term* actions that significantly and permanently reduce dangers due to releases or potential releases of hazardous substances that are serious but not immediately life threatening. Remedial responses are referred to EPA's Remedial program and are conducted only at sites on EPA's National Priorities List (NPL).

The discovery of a release or potential release of hazardous substances initiates EPA's Removal Program. EPA receives notice from the National Response Center or is contacted directly by states, communities, industries or individuals. An EPA On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) goes to the site, evaluates the situation, and based upon this evaluation determines the removal action to be taken. Superfund money may be used to clean up the site if those responsible for the release cannot or will not conduct the cleanup, or if state or local agencies are unable to respond. Other government agencies may be called upon to assist when necessary, depending upon the nature and extent of the release.

Some removals are paid for and conducted by those responsible for creating the release. In addition to past and present owners or operators, those responsible may include generators, transporters, storers or disposers of hazardous substances. The rest may be paid for and conducted by state or county response teams and funds, or by EPA through Superfund. When Superfund money is used, EPA may take action to force those responsible to reimburse the federal government for clean up costs.

### Relevant EPA Groups

EPA administers and enforces the nation's environmental laws. Based in Washington, D.C., it includes 10 regional offices, each of which includes community relations and technical staff involved in Superfund site cleanups. EPA Region 8 encompasses Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Montana. The EPA Region 8 regional office, located in Denver, Colorado includes several offices, branches, and sections related to the

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Superfund Program. In addition, there is an EPA Region 8 office located in Helena, MT.

### Superfund Community Involvement Section - Region 8

This section, part of EPA's Office of Communication and Public Involvement, oversees communication between EPA and all residents, public officials, media representatives, and community groups associated with Superfund sites. The Superfund Community Involvement Program for each site involves the planning, coordination, and implementation of activities designed to facilitate communication and enhance community involvement. Each site has at least one Community Involvement Coordinator who works closely with EPA technical staff to keep the local community informed and involved. See Appendix A for the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the EPA Region 8 Community Involvement Coordinators for the Libby, MT Site.

### Office of Ecosystem Protection and Remediation - Region 8

The Office of Ecosystem Protection and Remediation (EPR) oversees the development and implementation of Superfund remedial and removal program activities, as well as Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) activities. See Appendix A for the name, address, and telephone number of the EPR staff involved with the Libby, MT Site.

## Preparedness, Assessment and Emergency Response Program - Region 8

Part of EPA's EPR, the Superfund Preparedness, Assessment and Emergency Response and Program (PAER), manages short-term actions and emergency responses. These actions include responses to accidental releases of hazardous substances, as well as short-term work at sites on EPA's NPL. Removal actions are supervised by EPA On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs). See Appendix A for the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the EPA Region 8 OSCs for the Libby, MT Site.

### **Superfund Remedial Response Program - Region 8**

The Superfund Remedial Response Program is responsible for long-term technical work at Superfund sites, including site assessments, remedial investigations and feasibility studies, treatability tests, and remedial (cleanup) design and action. Each NPL site has a Remedial Project Manager, who supervises private contractors and other parties involved in site study and cleanup. NPL sites located in Montana are managed by the Montana EPA office. See Appendix A for the name, address, and telephone number of the Superfund Remedial Response Program staff involved with the Libby, MT Site.

### **Environmental Response Team**

The Environmental Response Team (ERT) located in Edison, NJ, is a branch of the Emergency Response Division of EPA's Office of Emergency and Remedial Response located in Washington, DC. ERT includes hazardous waste experts who provide 24-hour technical assistance to EPA regional offices. ERT staff members are involved in the testing of remedial technologies throughout the country, and can provide assistance during Superfund site cleanups.

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### **Other Relevant Government Groups**

There are four other government agencies relevant to the Libby Site.

### Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), headquartered in Atlanta, GA, is part of the Public Health Service within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. ATSDR conducts Public Health Assessments at Superfund sites to evaluate data and information on the release of hazardous substances into the environment. ATSDR is leading a major health screening in Libby called the Libby Community Environmental Health Project. See Appendix A for the name, address, and telephone number of the ATSDR staff involved with the Libby, MT Site.

### **Montana Department of Environmental Quality**

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), as part of its own Montana Superfund Program, acts as the support agency during EPA-led study and cleanup at federal Superfund sites in Montana. MDEQ staff involved in activities at the Libby, MT Site include the MDEQ Project Manager assigned to the Site. MDEQ's involvement in the Site cleanup includes reviewing and commenting on Site work plans and studies, participating in community involvement activities, and providing technical assistance to EPA. See Appendix A for the name, address, and telephone number of the MDEQ staff involved with the Libby, MT Site.

### Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services

The Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (MDPHHS) is charged with improving and protecting the health, well-being and self-reliance of all Montanans. MDPHHS maintains a Lincoln County office located in Libby at 117 Commerce Way. See Appendix A for the name, address, and telephone number of MDPHHS staff involved with the Libby, MT Site.

### **Lincoln County Environmental Health Department**

The Lincoln County Environmental Health Department maintains offices in both Libby and Eureka. See Appendix A for the name, address, and telephone number of Lincoln County Environmental Health Department staff involved with the Libby, MT Site.

## Other Relevant Non-governmental Groups

### St John's Lutheran Hospital

St. John's Lutheran Hospital is a not for profit, non-denominational community hospital and healthcare system. The hospital has 29 acute care beds and provides emergency and trauma service 24-hours a day, 7 days a week. Service for minor illness, emergencies, and medical problems is available in Libby from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm. Outreach clinics are also located in Troy and Eureka. See Appendix A for the name, address, and telephone number of St. John's Lutheran Hospital staff involved with the Libby, MT Site.

## 1.2 Purpose

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The CIP will be used by EPA in conducting community involvement activities as part of the Superfund process. The NCP requires a CIP for all removal actions lasting longer than 120 days and for all sites listed on the NPL. The CIP serves as a basis for identifying community concerns and planning two way communication so that the public gets questions answered, and concerns publically addressed. Community involvement staff strive to anticipate, identify, and acknowledge areas of conflict so that decisions can be made with full understanding of community views.

Regulations require EPA to conduct community interviews and, based on these interviews, to prepare a CIP that includes a description of the site background, history of community involvement at the Site (including major community concerns), community relations objectives, and a list of affected and interested groups and individuals. The community interviews form the foundation for developing a plan for keeping abreast of community concerns.

It is important to emphasize that the CIP often presents opinions of residents and other interviewees. The information obtained in these interviews and summarized in the CIP reflects interviewees' responses regardless of whether those responses are factually precise. The interview questions for the Site are included in Appendix A.

## 1.3 Organization

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EPA has prepared this CIP for the Site based upon information from interviews with a wide range of community members, as well as from other relevant sources. The CIP describes the concerns and comments of the community and outlines community involvement activities planned for the Site. EPA is committed to fully involving community members in site activities and decisions. These activities and opportunities for community involvement are explained in the pages that follow. EPA Region 8 will be responsible for implementing the community involvement program outlined in this CIP. The CIP will be modified if necessary, to meet changing needs as activities for the Site progress.

The remaining CIP sections are as follows:

- 2.0 Site Background: This section identifies the Site location, land uses in the neighborhoods which comprise the Site, recent agency activities at the Site, and the potential nature of the threat of the hazardous substances found at the Site.
- 3.0 Community Background and Concerns: This section describes the communities located within the Site boundaries and documents their concerns.
- **4.0 Objectives of the Community Involvement Program:** This section provides the basis for, and clarifies the goals of, the CI program.
- 5.0 Community Involvement Activities: This section describes the activities tailored to meet specific community needs and planned to promote effective community involvement at the Site.
- **6.0** References: This section contains a list of references used in the CIP.

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**7.0** Resources: This section summarizes the information contained in the CIP appendices.

This section contains a brief description of the Libby Site. Specific details include descriptions of:

- Location;
- Mining operations;
- Nature of the potential threat of hazardous substances; and
- · Recent agency activities.

### 2.1 Location

The Site is located in Libby, Montana. Libby lies in the northwest corner of Montana in Lincoln County approximately 35 miles from the Idaho border and 65 miles south of the Canadian border. Libby is bounded to the north by the Kootenai River and surrounded to the south by the Cabinet Mountains and Cabinet Mountain Wilderness area. The Site lies within Sections 3 and 10, T30N, R31W of the Libby Quadrangle. A Site map is contained in Figure 2-1.

Libby sits in the Kootenai River valley at an elevation of 2,066 feet and is surrounded by the Kootenai National Forest. The Libby Dam confines the Kootenai River about 17 miles north of town and creates the 90 mile long Lake Koocanusa that extends north into Canada. Montana Highway 37 parallels the Kootenai River and Lake Koocanusa and connects Libby to U.S. Highway 93 to the north. U.S. Highway 2 runs through Libby and connects Libby to the nearest towns of: Kalispell 90 miles to the southeast and Troy 18 miles to the northwest. The Burlington Northern Railroad maintains the railroad that runs through Libby connecting Libby to Whitefish, Montana and Spokane, Washington. Freight service runs daily and Amtrak service is available 4 days a week. Libby also has a small airport with a 5,000 foot runway.

## 2.2 Mining Operations

hydrated magnesium silicates in which varying amounts of iron (Fe<sup>++</sup>), sodium (Na<sup>+</sup>), and aluminum (Al<sup>3+</sup>) can substitute for calcium and magnesium in the solid solution

Vermiculite, an hydrated magnesium silicate mineral that resembles mica in appearance, was discovered just outside Libby, Montana in 1881 by gold miners. Initial mining operations began in the early 1920's on the vermiculite ore body located approximately 7 miles northeast of Libby. By the late 1920's, operations were at full scale under the name of the Universal Zonolite Insulation Company (Zonolite).

The Zonolite mining operations of the vermiculite ore body were fairly typical. Vermiculite ore was strip mined using conventional equipment and then processed in an on-site dry mill to remove waste rock and overburden. The processed ore was then trucked down Rainy Creek Road to a screening plant, which separated the milled ore into five size ranges for use in various products. From there, the material was shipped, predominantly by rail, across the country. The processed ore was either used as is for various products or was expanded, also known as exfoliated, prior to use. Expansion is accomplished by heating the ore, usually in a dry kiln, to approximately 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit. The heating process boils the water

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trapped in the crystalline matrix of the vermiculite, thus expanding the material by a factor of 10 to 15 fold.

In 1963, W.R. Grace & Co. bought the Zonolite mining operations and operated it in a similar fashion until the Mine closed in 1990. A wet milling process was added to the operation in 1975, which operated in tandem with the dry mill, until the dry mill was taken off line in 1985. Expansion operations at the Export Plant ceased in Libby sometime prior to 1981, although this area was still used to bag and export milled ore until mining operations were stopped in 1990. In 1994 W. R. Grace & Co. sold the mine area to the Kootenai Development Company, who are the current owners.

In 1985, W.R. Grace & Co. reported reaching a vermiculite production high at the Libby mine of 240,000 tons per year or 50 percent of the vermiculite mined in the U.S. (Grace, 2000). Before the mine closed in 1990, Libby produced about 80 percent of the world supply of vermiculite (Peronard, 2000). Commercially exploited vermiculite is used in agricultural, horticultural, industrial, and construction products such as building insulation and soil conditioner (TVA, 2000).

The vermiculite mining operations in Libby occurred at the following four main locations:

- Mine and Mill located on Rainy Creek Road on top of Zonolite Mountain;
- Screening Plant and Railroad Loading Station located astride the Kootenai River at the intersection of Rainy Creek Road and Highway 37, commonly referred to as the Screening Plant;
- Expansion/Export Plant, commonly referred to as the Export Plant, located off Highway 37 where it crosses the Kootenai River; and
- Expansion Plant believed to have been located at the end of Lincoln Road, near 5<sup>th</sup> Street. The Lincoln Road Expansion Plant apparently went off line sometime in the 1950's, and has since been demolished. Investigations are underway to determine the exact location of this facility.

## 2.4 Nature of Potential Threat of Hazardous Substances

The vermiculite ore body in Libby contains naturally occurring form of asbestos. Asbestos is a generic term for a group of six naturally-occurring fibrous silicate minerals. The predominant fibrous habit of minerals found at the Libby Site are of the tremolite-actinolite solid solution series known as amphibole asbestos. Asbestos is a recognized human carcinogen and is classified as a hazardous substance as defined by 40 CFR Section 302.4 of the National Contingency Plan (NCP).

Although people can be exposed to asbestos by *ingestion* (eating, drinking) or possibly on the skin, these are not major exposure routes and do not pose nearly as great a risk as inhalation of airborne asbestos fibers, the primary exposure route. The fibers that are most dangerous to human health are those fibers that are longer than 5 microns and especially those longer than 10 microns, with a length to width ratio of 5:1. These are the fibers that are of respirable size.

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Inhalation of asbestos fibers is known to cause three major respiratory diseases: asbestosis, lung cancer and mesothelioma. Asbestosis is a restrictive lung disease which can be fatal. Asbestosis is a disease characterized by fibrotic scarring of the lung and is caused specifically by exposure to asbestos mineral fibers. Mesothelioma is a cancer of the lining of the chest and abdominal cavities. The combination of smoking *and* exposure to asbestos greatly increases the risk of developing one of these lung cancers.

During operation of the Libby mine and related processing facilities, residents reported that large amounts of dust and fugitive emissions were released into the environment (Peronard, 2000). Residents describe having to halt baseball games as large dust clouds swept through the ballfield area from the piles of vermiculite at the Export Plant (Peronard, 2000). Data collected by W.R. Grace in 1975 shows levels of airborne asbestos in downtown Libby of 1.5 fibers/cubic centimeter (cc), over 10 times the current occupational limits of 0.1 fibers/cc (Peronard, 2000). Data collected by a contractor to EPA in the 1980's measured airborne asbestos levels at 0.5 fibers/cubic centimeter (cc), five times higher than today's occupational limits, 4.5 miles from the mine site (Peronard, 2000). The contaminated dust and soil created by these fugitive emissions likely remains in the environment and can be reentrained leading to inhalation exposures. There is extensive literature indicating that at various times workers at the mine site, mill and processing facilities were exposed to high levels of asbestos from fugitive dust emissions (Peronard, 2000). Other environmental releases of asbestos occurred from workers bringing home dust covered clothing and personal vehicles. It is known that asbestos fibers accumulate in indoor environments, and re-entrainment of indoor fibers can multiply indoor ambient air levels 50-fold (Peronard, 2000).

The threat of exposure to workers and residents exists through inhalation of amphibole asbestos at the two former vermiculite processing facilities, the Screening Plant and the Export Plant (Peronard, 2000). Non-enclosed buildings at both facilities contain significant amounts of dust containing asbestos fibers of the length and type of concern (Peronard, 2000). This dust is easily disturbed leading to additional potential inhalation exposures. Surface soils at each property contain in excess of 2% asbestos by weight (Peronard, 2000). These soils are subject to disturbance by wind, tracking through and off the property by human activities, and migration from potential new development and construction which can give rise to additional exposure to asbestos fibers (Peronard, 2000). Subsequent inhalation of these fibers by workers, visitors and on-site residents could cause an immediate public health threat (Peronard, 2000). A description of each of these facilities follows.

## Screening Plant

The Screening Plant occupies approximately 21 acres of property which is now used for combined commercial/residential use. It is likely that amphibole asbestos contamination has spread to the parcels of land (zoned residential) to the west and south of the Screening Plant proper. During operations the screened ore was moved by conveyor belt across the Kootenai River to a rail loading operation adjacent to a Burlington-Northern Rail Line. Amphibole asbestos contamination has also been found in this area. All of these areas are considered part of the Screening Plant.

Currently, the Screening Plant is used as a wholesale nursery; a covered storage facility for recreational vehicles, motor boats, and other equipment; and a farm for medicinal

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mushrooms. It is also the location of the primary residence for the current property owners and is frequently visited by relatives, including their children and young grandchildren. Its main features are the residence (former lab/office building); an approximately one acre, 40 foot high storage building; several green houses; a series of concrete tunnels that house the mushroom farm, and are also used for storage; several smaller storage units; a tree orchard; and a planting operation.

### **Export Plant**

The Export Plant occupies approximately 11 acres of property which is now owned by the City of Libby, and leased to a retail lumberyard. Some amphibole asbestos contamination has been found on adjacent parcels of land which had been used as youth baseball fields, but are now unused. During operations the screened ore was trucked from the Screening Plant to the Export Plant, and staged with various other vermiculite related materials between the ballfields and the Export Plant, and in a few other outlying areas. All of these areas are considered part of the Export Plant.

Currently, the Export Plant is used as a retail lumber mill. Its main features are five buildings used to house finished and rough lumber, and other construction related materials. These buildings also contain various milling equipment, tools, and a retail center. The buildings are all of basic wood construction. The Export Plant has paved access to Highway 37, and part of the property is now being used as a lay down area in support of improvements to the Highway 37 Bridge across the Kootenai River.

## 2.5 Recent Agency Activities

An EPA Emergency Response Team conducted an initial site investigation in Libby, MT on November 23, 1999 in response to requests from the State of Montana, Lincoln County Department of Environmental Health, and City officials of Libby, MT, to address questions and concerns raised by citizens of Libby and the media regarding possible ongoing exposures to asbestos fibers as a result of historical mining, processing, and exportation of asbestos-containing vermiculite. Specifically, a series of reports in the Kalispell Daily Interlake and the Seattle Post- Intelligencer as well as other newspapers, alleged that 192 people have died and 375 are now ill from asbestos-related diseases. This section presents Agency activities associated with sampling and community involvement.

The initial site investigation consisted of the following: a brief inspection of the former mine and processing facilities; interviews with local officials and some members of impacted families; an interview with a pulmonologist in Spokane, WA who specializes in the treatment of asbestos related diseases; and the collection of a small set of environmental samples.

This investigation revealed two important findings. First, there are a large number of current and historic cases of asbestos related diseases centered around Libby, MT. The pulmonologist in Spokane alone was currently treating over 200 cases of asbestos related diseases among people who had either lived in Libby or worked at the mine, and had provided care to dozens more who had already died. Out of this physician's cases were 33 incidents of apparently non-occupational exposures. Of these 33, six had no family or other ties to anyone working at the mine. While anecdotal in nature, these findings suggest definitive health effects from the amphibole asbestos found at Libby.

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The second finding was the likelihood that significant amounts of asbestos contaminated vermiculite still remained in and around Libby. It is clear that high concentrations of amphibole asbestos remain in the tailings pile and tailings pond at the former mine itself. In addition, visible piles of unexpanded vermiculite remained at the Screening Plant, and the base material of Rainy Creek Road appeared to contain tailings and sands from the mine. Residents described how piles of expanded and unexpanded vermiculite used to sit at the Export Plant, next to two former youth baseball fields. Children were described as having regularly played in and around these piles. Both expanded and unexpanded vermiculite from waste piles around the mining operations were commonly used by local residents in their yards and gardens as a soil conditioner (Peronard, 2000), and the expanded vermiculite was used as wall and attic insulation in many homes. Descriptions of historic operations of the mine, mill, and processing centers indicated that large amounts of dust and other fugitive emissions were released into the environment when these operations were still running (Peronard, 2000)

These findings led EPA to initiate a larger scale rapid investigation with the following distinct goals:

- Obtain information on airborne asbestos levels in Libby (a limited number of homes, businesses and the Export Plant and Screening Plant) in order to judge whether time-critical intervention is needed to protect public health.
- Obtain data on asbestos levels in potential source materials (at the Export Plant and Screening Plant), and identify the most appropriate analytical methods to screen and quantify asbestos in source material.

## **Sampling Activities**

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In December 1999, the EPA Team, in coordination with the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (MDPHHS), began sampling for asbestos in Libby. During the December 1999 sampling, the EPA Team collected indoor air, dust, soil, and insulation samples from 32 residences, 3 businesses, and several potential "hot spots" that are associated with historical vermiculite mining activities in Libby. These hot spots include the Export Plant area, the former Screening Plant, and Rainy Creek Road. Figure 2-2 is an aerial photograph that shows the location of these areas and the vermiculite mine.

In January 2000, the EPA Team took ambient air samples at four locations around the town of Libby. In March 2000, additional ambient air samples were taken at the vermiculite mine in the vicinity of the tailings pile. Air samples were also taken from six Libby school buildings (EPA, 2000b). The EPA Team will begin recording ambient air measurements from four fixed monitoring locations in Libby on a monthly basis starting in May through October 2000. An additional monitoring station is planned to measure air blowing off the mine site (EPA, 2000b). EPA and MDEQ will continue to study and identify the asbestos distribution in Libby.

Also in March and April 2000, the EPA Team took additional residential indoor air, dust, soil, and if present, vermiculite insulation samples from 89 homes as well as a number of public buildings. The March 2000 residential sampling was on a voluntary basis and focused on: 1) homes that are close to the former mine processing centers; 2) homes of former mine

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workers or worker's families; and 3) homes of people with asbestos-related illness who never worked at the mine or mine processing facilities.

### Why Conduct Environmental Sampling?

Sampling activities discussed in Section 2.2 are being conducted to determine if there is a current health risk from exposure to asbestos in Libby. If there is a risk, EPA must determine what actions need to be taken to reduce or eliminate them.

The samples were analyzed for possible contamination with asbestos fibers to identify areas with the greatest potential health risks. For all samples, the positive asbestos results were separated into the following fiber types:

- Asbestiform mineral fibers also known as tremolite-actinolite series of asbestos fibers;
- Chrysotile asbestos fibers (formerly used for floor tiles, pipe insulation, etc.);
   and
- · Other fibers.

The fibers were separated in this way because EPA believes the health risks are greatest for the tremolite-actinolite fibers. Also, tremolite-actinolite asbestos fibers are associated with the vermiculite ore mined in Libby.

The fibers found in air and dust samples were also divided into separate size classes. The size classes are as follows:

- Short fibers 5 to 10 microns; or
- Long fibers equal to or greater than 10 microns with a length to width ratio of 5 to 1 (5 microns long to 1 micron wide).

This fiber size division was made because health risks are believed to be greater for long fibers. Because some residents have expressed concern about potential health risks from shorter fibers, EPA is looking at these fibers as well.

### **Sampling Results**

The results from indoor air, dust, insulation, soil, and area schools are discussed in this section.

#### Indoor Air Results

The initial indoor air results from the December sampling were released the week of January 31, 2000. The initial results from the March/April indoor air sampling were released the week of XXXXX. The results for both events are discussed in this section.

#### December/January Results

In the January 2000 analysis, of the 32 homes and 3 businesses sampled, asbestos fibers greater than 10 microns were found in two homes and at two former vermiculite processing areas, the Export Plant, and the Screening Plant. EPA found tremolite-actinolite asbestos

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fibers — the kind of asbestos found at the Libby vermiculite mine, at one home and the two former vermiculite processing areas. At the other home, chrysotile asbestos, another type of asbestos fiber formerly used in floor tiles, pipe insulation, etc., was found.

In February 2000, EPA re-analyzed the indoor air samples to identify lower concentrations of asbestos fibers that may be present. From the re-analysis results, EPA identified two additional homes with asbestiform fibers that are associated with the Libby mine.

Results from the February 2000 re-analysis, found 11 locations with asbestiform mineral fibers of low concern, i.e., shorter than 5 microns and seven locations had chrysotile fibers in this same size range. At the other 16 locations, EPA did not detect asbestos fibers in the indoor air samples. The highest indoor air concentration was 0.0003 fibers per cubic centimeter which is about 10,000 times less than the concentrations found 25 to 30 years ago in Libby (CAG, 2000).

The EPA also conducted air sampling in 6 Libby school buildings. No samples had any fibers larger than 5 microns. Three samples found actinolite-tremolite fibers smaller than 5 microns. Chrysotile fibers were found only in the administration building. No samples have been taken to date at school outdoor tracks, that reportedly may contain asbestos (CAG, 2000). However, EPA does plan to sample the outdoor tracks in the future (CAG, 2000).

### March/April Results

### INSERT RESULTS HERE

### **Dust Sampling Results**

Dust was sampled in 34 properties in places such as window sills and beneath refrigerators where dust is expected to collect. Asbestos fibers greater than 5 microns long were found in the dust of 18 of the 34 locations sampled (EPA, 2000b). The table below summarizes the results of the asbestos fibers identified in the dust samples.

Type of Asbestos Fibers Found	Number of Samples	
Asbestiform fiber greater than 5 microns long	1	
Asbestiform fibers less than 5 microns long	7	
Chrysotile fibers greater than 10 microns long	9	
Chrysotile fibers between 5 and 10 microns long	8	
Chrysotile fibers less than 5 microns long	14	

Source: EPA Fact Sheet "Asbestos Sampling Results." March 2000.

### **Insulation Sampling Results**

EPA took insulation samples from 19 homes and 2 businesses (EPA, 2000b). The results from insulation samples show that 2 of the homes and 1 of the businesses sampled had levels between 1.5 and 2 percent fibers by weight (EPA, 2000b). Seven homes had insulation with less than 1 percent fibers by weight (EPA, 2000b). Fibers were not detected in the insulation from the 13 remaining homes sampled in the first analysis (EPA, 2000b). No correlation was

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apparent between the asbestos found in the insulation and asbestos indoor air concentrations (CAG, 2000).

### Soil Sampling Results

EPA took a total of 194 soil samples from 33 homes and 2 businesses (EPA, 2000b). The results from soil samples taken from residential yards and gardens show that 2 of the homes sampled had soil with an asbestiform mineral fiber content of 1-3 percent fibers by weight (EPA, 2000b). Seventeen homes had soil with less than 1 percent asbestiform mineral fibers (EPA, 2000a). The properties with the 3% and 1% soil values did not have elevated asbestos concentrations in the indoor air (CAG, 2000).

### Libby Asbestos Cleanup

In April 2000, EPA and W.R. Grace & Co. entered into negotiations to determine how the Export Plant and Screening Plant would be cleaned up. However, on April 18, 2000, W.R. Grace & Co. informed EPA that they were not interested in signing a consensual clean-up agreement for clean-up work at 2 former vermiculite processing areas in Libby. On May 23, 2000, EPA issued a Unilateral Administrative Order to W.R. Grace & Co. ordering them to clean up asbestos at their former vermiculite Export Plant next to the old ballfields on U.S. Highway 37. Also on May 23, 2000, EPA signed an "Action Memorandum" stating that EPA will clean up the former W.R. Grace & Co. Screening Plant located at the base of Rainy Creek Road on U.S. Highway 37.

### Libby Community Environmental Health Project

The U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) in collaboration with the MDPHHS, the Lincoln County Environmental Health Department, the MDEQ, and the EPA are conducting a Community Environmental Health Project to address human health concerns related to possible exposure to asbestos in the Libby, MT area. The following public health actions are being developed by ATSDR in coordination with these other agencies:

- Conduct a medical testing program for people who lived or worked in the Libby area during the time of highest exposure.
- Advise EPA on environmental sampling to develop a better understanding of patterns of exposure.
- Collect and analyze medical and epidemiologic information to understand the nature and extent of asbestos-related disease in the community.
- Work with other involved agencies to recommend actions that can be taken to limit further exposure to asbestos and to mitigate or prevent adverse health effects.
- Provide residents complete and current information on asbestos-related health risks. Work with area physicians and other medical professionals to help them obtain up-to-date information on the diagnosis and treatment of asbestos-related diseases.

## 2.0 Site Description

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The Medical Testing Program is a joint effort designed to identify and examine people whose health may have been affected from having been exposed to asbestos in and near Libby, MT. The program will also evaluate participant's current health status.

ATSDR provided a public comment period in March and April 2000 inviting the public to provide comment on the medical testing protocol to be used in the Medical Testing Program. The medical testing will begin in June 2000 and will last approximately 3 months. The testing includes the following:

- A set of chest x-rays;
- A pulmonary function test; and
- · Questions about personal medical history.

Participants will be notified of the interview results, breathing test, and initial x-ray results via letter at the end of the project.

The x-ray films will be reviewed first by a local radiologist and then by three independent radiologic experts (not from Libby). A letter explaining the x-ray results will be sent to each participant at their home address. The films and a copy of the results letter will be forwarded to the doctor specified by the participant. If a participant is confirmed to have symptoms consistent with asbestos-related lung problems, the participant will be referred to a physician (the participant's personal physician or another qualified physician). Participants who have no current lung problems or symptoms will be instructed to contact their personal physicians if they develop breathing problems in the future.

Those eligible for testing include 1) former employees of W.R. Grace/Zonolite in the Libby area and household members of former employees, and 2) persons that are at least 18 years old and lived, worked, or attended school in Libby for at least 6 months prior to December 31, 1990.

### **Community Involvement Activities**

EPA has conducted the following community involvement activities:

- · Conducted community interviews;
- Facilitated formation of Community Advisory Group (CAG);
- Established Libby Information Center;
- · Conducted public meetings;
- Sponsored open houses;
- Provided direct informational mailings;
- Published weekly advertisements; and
- · Published information on the Internet.

A description of each of these activities follows.

### **Conducted Community Interviews**

## Site Background

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EPA conducted XX community interviews with residents who had their homes sampled and other Libby community members and leaders. The objective of the interviews was to find out how the interviewee or their family members may have been exposed to asbestos and to assess community concerns about asbestos and find out how to best keep the public informed.

### Facilitated Formation of Community Advisory Group

EPA facilitated the formation of a Community Advisory Group (CAG). The CAG serves as a public forum for representatives of diverse community interests to present and discuss their needs and concerns related to the Libby Site. The CAG is designed as a mechanism for all affected and interested parties in a community to have a choice and actively participate in the decision-making process. A CAG allows EPA to exchange information with members of the affected community and encourages CAG members to discuss site issues and activities among themselves. The CAG also can provide a public service to the rest of the affected community by representing the community in discussions regarding the site and by relaying information from these discussions back to the rest of the community.

The first CAG information meeting was held on January 20, 2000 at the Libby City Hall. A CAG planning meeting was held on February 3, 2000. The CAG requested EPA to help them retain the services of a qualified facilitator. Mr. Gerald Mueller, a qualified facilitator chosen by a 5-person subcommittee of the newly formed CAG, was introduced at the February 3, 2000. During the planning meeting, the purpose of the CAG, the roles and responsibilities of the members, and the meeting procedures were established.

The CAG meetings are currently held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. Community members continue to set the agendas and discuss issues relevant to the investigation and cleanup of asbestos in Libby as well as the community Medical Testing Program. Summaries of the meetings are posted on the EPA web page at: http://www.epa.gov/region8/superfund/sites/mt/libbyasb/lbbytop.html and on the City of Libby web page at: <a href="http://www.libbymontana.com/public.html">http://www.libbymontana.com/public.html</a>. See Appendix XX for a list of CAG members.

### **Established Libby Information Center**

EPA officially established a local Information Center in Libby, MT on December 16, 1999. The Center was established to provide the community with information about EPA's sampling and clean-up activities and the potential health effects from asbestos. The Information Center is staffed full-time by Linda Newstrom and is located at 501 Mineral Avenue. The telephone number at the Information Center is (406) 293-6194. The EPA Information Center in Libby can also be accessed on the Internet at: <a href="http://www.libbymontana.com/public.html">http://www.libbymontana.com/public.html</a>. The Information Center hours are as follows.

Monday	8:30-5:00 pm
Tuesday	12:00-8:00 pm
Wednesday	8:30-5:00 pm
Thursday	8:30-5:00 pm
Friday	8:30-5:00 pm

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ATSDR also has an office in Libby that is located at 418 Mineral Avenue, phone (406) 293-7781, ext. 279.

### **Conducted Public Meetings**

EPA held the following four public meetings to date:

- December 1, 1999;
- March 22, 2000;
- February 2, 2000; and
- July 13, 2000.

All four meetings were held to discuss sampling results with the community. The meetings were well-attended and consisted of a presentation of EPA's activities, sampling results, and future plans and also provided a question and answer period.

### **Sponsored Open Houses**

EPA held an Open House on March 21 through March 23, 2000 at the EPA Information Center in Libby. During the Open House, EPA staff were available to answer questions regarding the sampling activities in the Libby area.

### **Provided Direct Informational Mailings**

EPA mailed approximately 3,800 postcards to Libby residents and businesses. The postcard included a business reply postcard that requested recipients to return the card if they wanted to be removed from the mailing list or needed to provide mailing name and address corrections.

EPA to date has also mailed 2 informational fact sheets to area residents and businesses. The first fact sheet provided information about the asbestos sampling activities being conducted in the Libby , MT area. This fact sheet was mailed in February 2000 to approximately 3,800 addresses. The second fact sheet provided information on the asbestos sampling results. This fact sheet was mailed in March 2000 to approximately 3,600 addresses. Both fact sheets are available in Adobe Acrobat format on the Internet at: http://www.epa.gov/region8/superfund/sites/mt/libbyasb/lbbyenv/lbbyenv.html. They are also available in the EPA Information Center in Libby, MT.

### **Published Weekly Advertisements**

Wendy - need information from you on number, different papers, and type of advertisements placed to date. Wendy will send on 7/24 - Never received

#### **Published Information on the Internet**

EPA publishes information on the Site on both the EPA web page and the city of Libby web page. The addresses for these web pages are as follows:

- http://www.epa.gov/region8/superfund/sites/mt/libbyasb/lbbytop.html; and
- http://www.libbymontana.com/public.html.

## 2.0 Site Background

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## **Community Background and Concerns**

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This section contains a description of the Libby, MT community located within the Libby Site and summarizes their major concerns regarding the anticipated Superfund removal actions. Section 3.1 contains a community profile of Libby, MT. Section 3.5 describes the major community concerns, the interviewing process EPA employed to identify these concerns, and a summary of the interview results.

## 3.1 Libby Community Profile

This section contains the following background information for the Libby, MT community:

- Community history;
- Population and demographics;
- · Employment and income;
- Tourism;
- Education;
- Religious institutions;
- Environmental concerns;
- Recreation; and
- · Community organizations.

A brief discussion of each of these topics follows.

## **Community History**

Libby, MT was settled in the late 1800's by gold miners and trappers. The town of Libby was built on the railroad right-of-way in 1892. The town was originally called Libby Creek, however the name was shortened to Libby in 1904. Libby was incorporated in 1909.

Libby was a typical small western mining and timber town. A building boom took place between 1892 and 1894. The wood was supplied by the timber industry and other building materials came from two brick yards and a local marble quarry. By 1894, 16 blocks had been laid out in the downtown area and lots were being sold.

The advent of the railroads increased the demand for timber. Log drives carried the timber from around Libby down the Kootenai River to mills located downstream in Canada. These annual log drives continued into the early 1900's when the Montana legislature decided that Montana cut timber had to be milled in Montana. As a result of this legislation local mills began to prosper. In 1906, a large mill was built in Libby. Following a fire in 1910, Julius Neils, purchased the mill. The J. Neils Lumber Company eventually became the largest single operation in Montana (Libby, 2000).

Vermiculite was discovered in Libby in 1881 by gold miners. In 1913, a vermiculite mountain, where the Libby mine is now located, was discovered (Grace, 2000). In 1919, Edward Alley discovered the unique exfoliating or expansion properties of vermiculite and in the 1920's the Zonolite Company formed and began mining vermiculite. In 1963, W.R.

## **Community Background and Concerns**

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Grace & Co. bought the Zonolite mining operations. The Mine closed in 1990. At its peak, vermiculite production reached more than 200,000 tons annually (Grace, 2000).

In 1951, Congress authorized the construction of Libby Dam. The Columbia River Treaty between Canada and the United States was signed in 1961 and ratified in 1964. This treaty provided for construction of three storage dams in the Canadian Columbia River Basin and allowed the United States to construct Libby Dam. Construction began in 1966 and was completed in 1972. The Libby Dam was built to provide flood protection for the Kootenai and lower Columbia Rivers, as well as to provide an additional source of hydroelectric power. Prior to construction of Libby Dam, flooding along the Kootenai River in Montana, Idaho, and British Columbia was a common Spring occurrence. A total of \$522 million in flood damages were caused by the Kootenai River from 1948 through 1961 (ACE, 1996).

Approximately 76 percent of the land around Libby is public and is part of the Kootenai National Forest (Libby). There are two major private landowners Plum Creek Timber and Burlington Northern own approximately 14 percent. The rest of the private land is individually owned (Libby).

### **Population and Demographics**

According to the 1990 US Census, Lincoln County has a total population of approximately 18,700. The major communities in Lincoln County are Eureka, Fortine, Libby, Rexford, Trego, and Troy. Libby is the County seat and is by far the largest community in the County. The 1990 US Census counted 2,800 residents residing within the city limits and another 11,000 living within a 4 mile radius of the town for a total population of 13,800.

According to the US Census Equal Employment Opportunity File, ethnic minorities make up approximately 3 percent of the Lincoln County population. The largest ethnic minority population is Native American at 1.6 percent. Other ethnic minorities living in the Lincoln County are reported to African American, Asian or Pacific Islander, Hispanic, or other.

The 1990 US Census lists the median age in Lincoln County as 35.3 years. Just over 12 percent of the County population is over 65 years of age. School age children, age 5-17, comprise 23 percent of the Lincoln County population. Adults ages 18 to 64 sometimes called the working age population comprise 58 percent of the Lincoln County population.

Lincoln County witnessed a significant decline in population in the early 1980s following the completion of the Libby Dam project on the Kootenai River. Although the timber and mineral extractive industries declined by some 40 to 65 percent, the area's population grew by 7.1 percent in the last 8 years. Population expansions are predicted to have a 1 to 2 percent growth rate through the year 2002 (EDC, 2000). In 1998, the birth rate in Lincoln County was less than 1 percent with 113 recorded births out of a population of 18,700 (MDPHHS). The marriage rate in the same year was 8.2 per 1,000 population (MDPHHS).

## **Employment and Income**

This section contains employment and income information for Lincoln County. Lincoln County, Montana, has a 24-year history of annual double-digit employment. It's economy is based on natural resource extraction, government employment,

## **Community Background and Concerns**

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manufacturing and health care services. Table 3-1 lists the percentage of employed residents in 1998 by occupational category for Lincoln County and Montana state-wide.

**Table 3-1: Lincoln County Employment by Occupational Category** 

Employment Occupation Category	Lincoln County (%)	Montana (%)
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing	1.63	80.49
Mining	0.28	1.42
Construction	3.45	5.18
Manufacturing	19.17	6.64
Transportation, Communication, and Utilities	2.92	5.11
Wholesale Trade	1.23	5.15
Retail Trade	19.19	22.32
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	3.47	4.62
Services	21.12	28.86
Government	27.44	19.34

Source: Montana Department of Labor & Industry, Office of Research & Analysis.

Recent Department of Labor statistics shows an annual unemployment rate of 13.1 percent. The continued decline within the timber industry has resulted in a relatively large number of skilled underemployed persons living in the county. With the high annual unemployment rate for the past 25 years, ranging from 11 to 18 percent, Lincoln County is designated a labor surplus area. Skilled wage rates in Lincoln County (as well as in Montana as a whole) are among the lowest in the United States (EDC, 2000).

The top ten Lincoln County major employers in 1999 are listed in Table 3.2

Table 3-2: Top Ten Lincoln County Employers in 1999

Name of Employer	Number of Employees
Stimson Lumber Company	340
Kootenai National Forest	276
Libby Public School District	203
St. John's Lutheran Hospital	182

## **Community Background and Concerns**

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Name of Employer	Number of Employees
Lincoln County Government	135
Owens & Hurst Lumber	120
Ksanka Plum Creek Timber	118
Eureka Public School District	113
Libby Care Center	92
Rosauer's Food & Drug	91

Source: EDC, 2000

According to the US Department of Commerce the 1999 per capita personal income in Lincoln County was \$14,190 or 56 percent of the national average. This compares to a 1999 per capita personal income for the state of Montana of \$19,660 or 78 percent of the national average. The 1990 US Census puts approximately 14.1 percent of the Lincoln County population below the poverty level.

The total number of households in Lincoln County estimated by the 1990 US Census is 6,735. The median home value is \$47,900 and the median monthly rent is \$280 (EDC, 2000).

### **Tourism**

Lincoln County is located between two of the fastest growing tourism regions of the Pacific Northwest, the Flathead Valley of Montana (Whitefish and Kalispell) and the Elk and Columbia Valleys of British Colombia. It is within easy driving distance of major population centers such as Spokane, Calgary and Missoula. Nevertheless tourism development to date has been restrained, reflecting the region's dependence on natural resource industries (EDC). The tourism development strategy for the region calls on development of a number of new tourism markets, including attracting high scale European visitors arriving through the Calgary and Vancouver gateways, development of the golfing market originating in Washington State, Montana and Calgary, as well as placing more emphasis on the adventure tourism market (EDC).

At the moment the majority of tourism accommodation is located in the towns of Libby and Eureka (many motels and RV parks) with a number of tourist lodges and bed and breakfast in the Eureka, Trego and Yaak River areas. As the present tourist strategy evolves there will be a definite need for the construction of a number of three and four star hotels and lodges to cater to the expected new European and golfing markets (EDC). The Lincoln County Economic Development Council is currently actively seeking tourism sector investors interested in investigating this market.

There are 3 chambers of commerce in Lincoln County. The Tobacco Valley Board of Commerce is located in Eureka. The Libby Area Chamber located in Libby and the Troy Chamber located in Troy.

## **Community Background and Concerns**

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### **Education**

The Libby Public School District operates three elementary schools, one middle school and one high school. The 1999 Libby Public School enrollment was 1,940 students (EDC, 2000). In 1999, there were 2 parochial schools in Libby that enrolled approximately 63 children (EDC, 2000). There is also one private and one public preschool/daycare located in Libby (EDC, 2000).

Advanced educational services are delivered through the Lincoln County Campus of Flathead Valley Community College located in downtown Libby. Associates degrees in business, science and human services are available. The campus also serves as an outreach site for Great Falls University. Bachelor level and advanced degrees are available for professionals (EDC, 2000). According to the Lincoln County Economic Development Council, approximately 16.7 percent of Lincoln County residents over the age of 25 have Associates degrees or better.

The Lincoln County Campus of Flathead Valley Community College serves a Full-Time-Equivalent population of 100 students and has a total enrollment of 280 students. LCC also provides adult education, professional continuing education and community education services. The main campus of Flathead Valley Community College is located in Kalispell, Montana (EDC, 2000).

The largest four-year state college is the University of Montana located in Missoula, 200 miles south of Libby Other educational services include the Libby Job Service's Job Training Partnership Act to provide vocational training for dislocated workers (EDC, 2000).

There are 3 public libraries in Lincoln County. The Lincoln County Public Library is located at 220 West 6th Street in Libby. There are also public libraries in Eureka and Troy. The Eureka Branch Library is located at 318 Dewey Avenue and the Troy Branch Library is located at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Kalispell.

### **Religious Institutions**

7 churches

### **Environmental Concerns**

Are local environmental issues a concern??? Should we have a section instead on local health issues???

### Recreation

Lincoln County is a major recreation area with Libby Dam and Lake Koocanusa. Lake Koocanusa is a man made lake 90 miles long extending across the border into Canada

A country club and ski resort serve the Libby and Troy area

## **Community Organizations**

There are several active community organization located in or near Libby. These organizations include:

## **Community Background and Concerns**

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- Senior Citizens' Group;
- · Rotary Club;
- Community Advisory Group;
- Troy Businessmen's Association;
- Eureka Area Chamber of Commerce;
- Lincoln County Asbestos Victims Relief Organization; and
- Lincoln County Economic Development Council.

These organizations and their activities are described briefly in the following sections.

### Senior Citizen's Group

Need info on this group

### **Rotary Club**

Need info on this group

### **Community Advisory Group**

The Community Advisory Group (CAG) serves as a public forum for representatives of diverse community interests to present and discuss their needs and concerns related to the Libby Site. The CAG is designed as a mechanism for all affected and interested parties in a community to have a choice and actively participate in the decision-making process. A CAG allows EPA to exchange information with members of the affected community and encourages CAG members to discuss site issues and activities among themselves. The CAG also can provide a public service to the rest of the affected community by representing the community in discussions regarding the site and by relaying information from these discussions back to the rest of the community.

The CAG meetings are currently held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. Community members continue to set the agendas and discuss issues relevant to the investigation and cleanup of asbestos in Libby as well as the community Medical Testing Program. Summaries of the meetings are posted on the EPA web page at: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/region8/superfund/sites/mt/libbyasb/lbbytop.html">http://www.libbymontana.com/public.html</a>. See Appendix XX for a list of CAG members.

### **Lincoln County Economic Development Council**

The Lincoln County Economic Development Council's mission is to promote economic development by facilitating feasible infrastructure improvements and the county's desirability as a place to live and work. The Lincoln County Economic Development Council strives to create an awareness of economic concerns and strategies by conducting community assessments, surveys, meetings, and projects. An example list of current economic development projects follows.

Business counseling - working to retain and grow local businesses;

## **Community Background and Concerns**

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- Areated autoclaved concrete a study of using mine tailings;
- Technology projects building the local on-ramp to the Information Superhighway;
- Revolving loan program partnering with local banking institutions to finance business start-up and expansion; and
- Grant program.

A list of Lincoln County Economic Development Council representative is located in Appendix XX.

### 3.2 Community Concerns, Comments, and Issues

To develop a CIP that accurately reflects community interests and concerns, EPA depends heavily upon information obtained during "Community Interviews." From January 1999 through June 2000, EPA conducted interviews with a wide spectrum of area residents and representatives, such as community leaders, elected officials, business representatives, and community service workers. The questions asked the community members are contained in Appendix XX. The responses from these interviews are grouped according to similar themes. EPA has made every effort to include all the responses from the interviews.

It is important to emphasize that this section presents the opinions and concerns of residents and other interviewees rather than those of EPA, the state, or any PRPs. The information obtained in these interviews and summarized in this section reflects interviewees' responses regardless of whether those responses are factually precise.

### Section 3 - Compilation of interviews.

7B) People were asked if they had any specific concerns about asbestos exposure.

The main concerns are health related. Many people are concerned about their health, their family friends and neighbors health. A concern that was expressed repeatedly was worry about kids today in Libby and making sure that they don't get exposed to asbestos. Also people want to know how different people got cancer. Some people are concerned because the previous owners of their home had cancer. Issues around taking care of dying friends and family are common. Also common are questions related to how to live with a diagnosis of an asbestos related disease. Some people expressed fear of being diagnosed even when they feel they may have an asbestos-related illness. There is concern about the latency period of asbestos-related illnesses. Some feel that rates of multiple sclerosis and lupus seem to be high in the population and could be related to asbestos exposure. People have expressed scepticism about diagnoses of asthma or emphysema, thinking that it is really asbestosis. Some are concerned that there is no cure for asbestosis. People who have been exposed to asbestos should get useful information.

Possible exposure pathways was another concern that was often mentioned by those interviewed. People are concerned about whether to remove asbestos or keep it in place. They feel that there could be negative effects from living in house with vermiculite if it contains asbestos. Other places where people feel they could be exposed or have been exposed to asbestos in the past: the old railroad loading areas; areas adjacent to the conveyor belt; drivers having followed Zonolite trucks on highway with dust flying everywhere; kids being exposed to fathers' dust on work clothes; playing at old ballfields near the old export Plant; horseback riding in field and hunting near the mine; Zonolite in the river and in Rainy Creek; playing in Flower Creek; garage reconstruction; remodeling the house; attic activities; squirrels in attic stirring up vermiculite; hauling bags to the landfill; working on home wiring; blowing dust that may contain asbestos fibers; Flathead Community College plastered with vermiculite and plaster mix.

Other concerns that people mentioned were the way insulation was sampled and the representativeness of the samples. Someone thought that samples were taken from the top layer, but what is filtering down into the house is from the bottom layer. There are economic concerns about decreasing property values. Some thought that people in the community are in denial about the problems of asbestos. Some people feel that the problems have been covered up and people couldn't make their own choices. Some financial concerns expressed include 1)disability insurance won't pay if a person is only working 3/4 time; 2) attorney costs; 3) concern over ability to afford necessary medical costs; 4) a person might like to work 3/4 time and have WRG compensate tehm for the difference. There are many emotional, psychological, stress and grief related concerns. There is a strange dynamic created by the fact that of people working together at the mine some have asbestos-related illness and others don't.

There were several actions requested. Many people still want their homes tested for asbestos. Some are just eager to get all the test results from the samples that have been taken. People want details about exactly what diseases asbestosis causes and what to do if they have an asbestos-related disease.

There were many questions asked during the interviews. EPA will try to answer as many of these as we can through the various communication techniques outlined in this plan.

**Questions** 

Will it show up in my kids, grandkids?

Should they be checked?

Does my home have it?

Are my children exposed?

Is it dangerous to be in this house?

If asbestos is in the house, how do they get it out?

Who is going to be responsible for cleaning up insulation?

How can they sell their house if they have it in their house?

How much exposure does Libby have to asbestos in comparison to other towns such as Kalispell?

Is there a different health concern for children versus adult if there is exposure?

How will the exposure levels/standards be communicated to the public?

What standards/level exist to determine if there is a health risk?

What was the asbestos content of vermiculite: at mine, after popping/processing, as finished product?

Asbestos content on bags were labeled < 1%. Was WR Grace able to remove the asbestos from the vermiculite?

Is there a connection between arthritis and asbestos exposure?

Has air drifted from zonolite to other areas?

Is there residue at river bottom?

Would fish be affected or die?

What are the exposure results?

Are there precautions that people can take?

Is there danger from going into an attic with vermiculite?

Is vermiculite sifting down from ceiling tile a problem?

How much danger still exists?

How do they get their children tested that live out of state/town?

Concerned about residual effect, are these high levels of asbestos still in area?

Death sentence-will it keep progressing?

How you can tell asbestosis from other things (diseases) from x-rays?

How far could the vermiculite have been blown/spreadout?

Has the Memorial Gym and Turner Mountain Shack been tested?

Will EPA do anything about the air quality in general, wood smoke, dust, etc.?

Asbestosis, health effects, how much does it take to get ill?

What tests need to be done to detect asbestosis?

If they find any ambient exposure in the air, how can it be cleaned up?

People were asked if they wanted to be involved in the EPA risk assessment and there were several ways in which people wanted to be involved.

Many people said they would help in any way they could. Many offered to answer whatever questions they could help EPA answer as we assessed the risk in the Libby area. Many people said they would just like to continue to come to meetings. Some said they would attend Community Advisory Group meetings. People would like to continue to receive information in the mail. Some said they would volunteer some time while other were too busy to volunteer but wanted to stay informed through the papers or mailings or meetings.

People told us that the predominant use for vermiculite is as insulation material. Many people also used it as a garden amenity. When asked about ways that vermiculite was used other than for insulation or gardening, the following answers were recorded:

### In school

Made cookies at school in Home Economics class with it;

Used it as a science project;

Tried to put it in plaster in old junior high/now college building;

Libby Community College was plastered with Zonolite when he went High School

Took it to school and pop it;

Plastic bags of vermiculite for boy scout jamboree;

Used for track at High School

#### At home

Kids brought pieces home, found it in yard and would heat it and pop it;

Popped it at home with cousins;

People brought it home as gimmick to show people.

Was used to store vegetables, bulbs, etc. over the winter;

As a mosquito repellant, Zonolite was mixed with sawdust and some pesticide. It was dyed green and felt oily;

Turf builder;

People played in it

### In Construction

Mixed it into concrete in the garage;

Used in well house insulation;

Paved driveway with rock from gravel pit;

masons and brick layers used zonolite as filler between bricks;

Used in chimneys in Libby;

Shipped to z-crete to licensee plants

Light weight roofing.

### Experimentally

Experimenting with feeding it to hogs.

Put it in vitamins.

Used it as diet food.

### Commercially

Zonolite made sheetrock, fiberglass; Dry Kills - large sheds that were used to dry lumber; Fill for Purina animal food;

When people were asked about how they might have been exposed to asbestos the following answers were given.

horseback riding hunting, uncovered mining trucks driving down Rainy Creek Road. playing in plant by City Hall sweeping and washing husbands clothes. playing in ballfields, playing in vermiculite piles at the ballfields, taking kids to mine in the 1980s; sledding up at the mine, river fishing, tours of the mine, church at the river where the RainTree is now located, playing in Libby Creek, working at the Stud Mill by Libby Creek, gathering wood, picking mushrooms, in gardens, float the river to the Screening Plant field trips with school to the mine, hiking, riding motorcycles up at the mine area. driving dump trucks to and from mine; playing in piles of Zonolite at East 7th and Lincoln Blvd (Old Zonolite Headquarters) and at

picnics at Orchard by loading dock by Rainy Creek,

cutting Christmas trees

export site,

getting scrap steel at mine.

Easter Sunrise service every year at Rainy Creek.

cleaning out Grandpa's cuffs on pants so Grandma would let him in the house.

People were asked if there was anthing else they wanted to say about the Zonolite mine.

Some of the comments were:

There was a great deal of dust around the mine.

Parents.didn't know where the mine was located until last hunting season.

A lot of people are diagnosed in Libby with asbestos-illnesses

Too bad the EPA didn't shut the mine down years ago.

Does not believe it the mine is safe. Washouts are uncovering soil, pond, etc.

Glory Hole has a lot of bad stuff buried in it including dumped oil drums. Concern about digging there.

Father's lunchbox would come home with a lot of dust in it.

Concerned about air.

People got a good pay check and they knew it was dangerous.

Father-in-law did wear masks after OSHA got involved.

Road was covered with dust - slimy 1/4 inch flakes, slippery. When dry roads were thick with dust.

Make sure building is safe for workers and customers.

Doesn't believe there is a current health risk from airborne dust from mine.

Reclamation process at mine. Not done to satisfaction. Should be looked at.

Worried about 4 wheelers running on property disturbing ground.

Riprap brought down from mine for Flower Creek after flooding, some reclamation of area.

Dirty buses went back and forth to transport workers.

Tours were open to the public.

Believes mine is a danger. Wind still brings dust into town from mine.

50's - State told Zonolite that vermiculite was a problem - 1 to 3 weeks of safety training.

70's - Told to wear mask, but never enforced. Explained health issues to workers around early to mid 80's. Masks hard to wear at some jobs (paper masks).

Concern about not knowing the health problems that asbestos could cause while working at the mine.

Concern over any housing development built on or near the mine site.

WR Grace required individuals to go to Dr. Whitehouse for diagnosis. Reports from company to employee did not accurately reflect x-ray results.

1980s-1990s: EPA recommendations regarding what measures would need to be taken to keep Rainy Creek road open; County did not have resources to have water truck make daily runs;

decided only to post no trespassing sign; Owen [?] Hurst is not abiding by EPA

recommendations made in an EIS; why has this not been followed up?

Lower Pond located below tailings; only kids under 12 could fish; fish brought home to cook smelled heavily like diesel/gas. Gave State Fish and Game sample for analysis and they found diesel.

Drove up to mine around the popping plant. There was always vermiculite across Highway 37 and River.

Glory Hole should be checked out,

when the storage sheds at ballfields were torn down, old, popped vermiculite was picked up for free by people in Libby - Champion flatbed loaded up too.

Heard low-grade vermiculite was buried at the Glory Hole by the mine.

They used to haul vermiculite in "UKE" trucks-high dump trucks that were uncovered. Em Kayan village is so near that material could have blown over. Still a lot of activity on the road. Logging, hunting, partying, sampling, sightseeing, wildlife watching, Tremendous scar on landscape-never reclaimed. How did they get away without reclaiming it? Not like Kellogg, Anaconda. Still have problems with hazardous waste, minerals. Would think that Rainy Creek would be contaminated with it. Raw ore washed down. People didn't have a choice about working in a hazardous environment because they didn't know.

EPA wanted to hear from residents whether there were areas of Libby that they believe still present a risk from asbestos to residents? The following places were listed.

Mother had hard time getting compensated after her husband's death.

Greenhouse at Rainy Creek

Ball fields by river,

Airfield Park

area down by Senior Center between hospital and tracks is supposedly full of vermiculite.

Homes in the area

Homes near the River

Anywhere near the mine.

South end of town.

Central School insulation,

If stirred up in houses with vacuuming,

logging truck traffic.

Sheep Range at the end of Kootenai River Road.

J. Neils park from wind.

Along the River and Rainy Creek, Deltas of incoming creeks.

Whole general area of Libby.

Maybe industrial park

Homes that used raw materials in gardens, etc.

Tub Gulch - that kids for decades have used as a party spot.

Mine itself, from wind, erosion.

Any area where sampling shows a high content of asbestos.

by hospital,

Carney Creek area-thinks that there will be a lot found there

Chutes in old mill was always lined with asbestos.

Piles on end of 5th Street where old HQ was.

Export site

People identified the following things that they wanted more information about.

Results of sampling,

Information on health risks,

Stay current on findings.

Exposure to asbestos, potential health risks and effects. Immune system effects.

Would like a clean letter in case of sale of property.

Thinks a cluster study should be done on cancer etc. in Libby.

Results of testing

Results of tests. How to make building safe if there is a risk.

Need to work together, help each other.

Results

Sampling results

asbestos content of finished product.

Discussion in lay terms of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and pleural plaqueing.

Medical symptoms;

Smokers and asbestos;

Complete and full results when everything is over with.

People identified the following methods as the best waysof communicating with them.

1. The Montanian & W. News, 3. Swap shop, 6. Cable
1., 2., 3. Swap shop
1. W. News, 5.
1. The Montanian, 6. TV-Channel 10 cable announce.
1., 3., 6. Personal/meetings, word-of-mouth at work
1., 2., 6. Cable channel 10
2., 6. Mailings
1.
1., 3., 6. Word-of-mouth, 6. Get postcard
1. 2. 6. Newspaper, flyers @ Drs office, grocery
1., 2., 5., 6. Mail
1., 5.
1. Western News, 6. Mailings good
2., 3. Swap shop, 6. Cable tv
1.
1., 6. Mail a notice to them with their sampling results, channel 10
6. Mailings and e-mail
1., 2., 6. Channel 10-sometimes
1., 2. Mailings, leave around town thru USPS, 3., 6. Channel 10,
KREM2 (Kalispell), KLLS (Spokane)
1., 2., 3., 6. Channel 10
1., 3. Swap shop, 5., 6. Channel 10
1., 3., 6. Local web site, Channel 10, flyers in grocery bags, reader
boards around town.
5. Without media, 6. Small group meetings, internet information
3.swapshop in am

A second	
1., 2., 3. Swap shop, 5., 6. TV	
1., 3. Swap shop	
1., 3. Swapshop, 5., 6. Channel 10	
1., 5., 6. Pamphlets in doctor's offices	
1. Missoula/Interlake, 5., 6. Direct mail, TV news Kalispell	
6. Directly sending people info.	
1., 3. Swap shop	
1. W. News & Montanian,, 3., 6. Swap shop	
6. By mouth and direct mailing	
1., 6. Factsheet and inform people what it is and that a factshe	eet is
coming	
1. Western News, 5. Town Meetings	
1., 3., 5.	
3., 6. Postcards via direct mail	
1., 3., 6. Call in phone number, voices of the Kootenai	
1. Local, Interlake, Missoulian, Great Falls Tribune, 3., 6.	
Channel 10	
1. WN, M	
1., 2., 3.	
1., 2., 3., 5., 6. Mailings to home	
6. Bill boards outside Rosauers, flyers in grocery stores, ask U	JSPS
how they notify re:forest fires?	
1. Montanian doesn't charge for paper, 6. Direct mailing	
1.	
1., 3. 8:30 am local radio show (voices of Kootenai)	
1. Press release, 2.	
1. Western News, Mont., Daily Interlake, 3., 6. Tell sombody,	TV
news	
1., 3.	
1., 6. Gossip-info center	
1., 3., 5. Community meetings like have been held in memoria	ŀ
gym	
1 2 4 6 6 11 687	
1., 3., 4., 6. Cable TV	
1., 5.	. 4
1. As long as it's the facts; 5., 6. Person to person and info cer	iter

Quesiton 25
When asked where the best meeting places were, people answered.
Memorial Gym

Memorial Gym, High School Gym, VFW Building	
Memorial Gym, City Hall, Schools	
Memorial Gym	
VFW, Wilkinson Building	

Memorial Gym, City Hall, Sports Rehab Building Veteran's Memorial Gym
Veteran's Memorial Gym
veteran's ivienional Gym
UFW, Churches, City Hall, Memorial Gym
High School Gym, or Ponderosa Room
Memorial Gym
Memorial Gym, High School Auditorium
Restaurants, City Hall, Venture Inn Conf. Rooms,
Memorial Gym
Memorial Gym, Venture Inn
Memorial Gym, VFW
Memorial Gym, VFW
Memorial Gym, USFS Conference Room, Ponderosa
Room and City Hall.
High School Gym, or Memorial Gym
Memorial Gym, City Hall, High School Gym, VFW.
City Hall, Memorial Gym
Memorial Gym, School Gym (ASA Wood), City Hall.
Memorial Gym, City Hall
keep group meetings to around 30 people
Veteran's Memorial Gym
Veteran's Memorial Gym, Ponderosa Room, City Hall
Veteran's Memorial Gym
Memorial Gym, Ponderosa Room - VFW hall is smoky
and people [with asbestosis] cannot be around smoking
Gym or City Hall
VFW has new building. National Guard Armory.
Memorial Gym or Lumber mill
Memorial Gym, High School Gym
Memorial Gym
Memorial Gym
Ponderosa Room at City Hall, Memorial Gym
Memorial Gym, Schools, National Guard
Ponderosa Room, VFW, Masons across from Hidden
Chapel
Veterans Memorial Gym, High School Auditorium
Ponderosa Room at City Hall, Memorial Gym
Memorial Gym
Memorial Gym
Memorial Gym, Ponderosa Room
Memorial Gym
Memorial Gym; High School gym
Memorial Gym, First National Bank community room;
County Annex basement; ASA Wood-Junior High School

Memorial Gym; Chamber has list of who meets wh	en
Gym, Bank Community Meetings, VFW Building	
VFW Hall, Memorial Gym, Large churches	
Memorial Gym, City Hall	
Memorial Gym	
•	
Memorial Gym, Ponderosa Room City Hall	

When we asked people to identify community leaders, both formal and informal, we heard the following names

following names
Ray Denning, Ray Remp, Archie and Phyllis Minde
Mayor Tony Berget, Dr. Black, Mel and Lerah Parker (on
asbestos issues)
School Board, School Principals, Community health
people, Commissioners
Gayla Benefield, Leroy Tom
Gayla Benefield, Kathy Tennison
Fred Brown, Libby Café, Henry's Café
Scott Orr, Tony Berget, Rita Hindom
Mayor Tony Berget, Neils, Leroy Thom
Dr. Brad Black, EPA
Gayla Benefield
Linda Gerard - Venture Inn
Les and Novita Skramsted, Gayla Benefield
Linday Gerard, George Bowers, Kim Aarstad, Marlene
Herreid
Mayor Berget
Tony Berget
Mayor Tony Berget, Sheriff Daryl Anderson, County
Commissioners, Gov. Rasicot
Dr. Maloney, Dr. Black
Prefers to read the papers.
Would prefer EPA to five information to them.
Dr. Black, Charlie Comer, Dr. Rice, Mick Mills, Tom
Wood
Rita Windom, Tony Berget, Gov. Racicot
Tony Martin

Gayla Benefiel	d
Mayor, hospita	l staff, school board,
Gayla Benefiel	d, Tony Berget, County Commissioners.
	ls - Mayor one-sided
no one that star	nds out to him.
Ross Koehler,	Keith Walsh
Daryl Anderson	n
Tony Berget an	nd City Council. County Commissioners,
Chamber of Co	ommerce, Economic Development, NW
R,C&D office,	Russ Barnes (President of Economic Dev.
Board), Mick S	Shea (Rotary Club)
Mayor Berget,	Daryl Anderson
Nobody in part	icular.
Jerry Criner, M	like Crill, Scott Orr
Gayla Benefiel	d
John Konzen T	Troy County Commissioner
Tuni Theonnes	
Tony Berget	
·	
Ed Baker at Ed	
Mayor, Rita W	indom, Charlie Comer, Dan Stevens,
Glenda Beaulie	eu
	Earl Lovic (deceased), Pastor Les Nelson,
Shirley Chase,	Bob Keller
	rgy, chamber of commerce
	issioners, Mayor, Bill Crismore, Paul
Tisher, Mike F	funk, Carol Stamy, Fred Brown

#### **Community Involvement Plan Objectives and Strategies**

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Based upon interviews with local community members and other interested parties as well as considering other relevant information, EPA has developed the following list of objectives for community involvement and communication for the Libby Site:

- Proactive Approach;
- Define and Communicate Roles;
- Formally Involve Local Officials and Other Community Representatives; and
- Comply with CERCLA/SARA Requirements.
- Other possibilities might include Provide community members with useful information about the Superfund process - Provide timely, Site-specific information to community members - Provide opportunities for community input

A discussion of each of these objectives and the strategies EPA will use to implement the objectives follows.

#### 4.1 Proactive Approach

EPA's objective is to use a proactive approach to sharing information with the public. The Agency will try to provide information to as many people as possible, listen to their concerns, and answer their questions. To achieve this objective, EPA will ensure that public health and safety issues as well as opportunities for public participation in site decisions are well publicized. The EPA will assure that easy-to-read information regarding the status of site activities is provided to the community. The information will enable the community to keep up-to-date and be well-informed about site activities.

EPA will use various techniques, some suggested by the community, to provide site information to the public. One of the most effective ways to share information with area residents is by placing updates in various community newsletters that are delivered door-to-door. EPA will produce fact sheets and flyers and use both direct mail and newsletters to get information to residents and other interested parties. EPA will hold public meetings and periodically attend various established neighborhood organization meetings.

Information center, Website, direct mail, fact sheets, weekly ads,

#### 4.2 Define and Communicate Roles

EPA's objective is to clearly define and communicate plans, schedules, responsibilities, costs, and relationship with other agencies. Citizens have raised a number of questions about the roles of various groups involved in Site activities. There are a number of directly affected parties and other interested parties involved in different Site activities and it is important that EPA clearly explain the role and authority of each and how their activities are coordinated, especially concerning MDEQ, which is EPA's primary governmental agency partner. DO WE NEED TO ADD ATSDR?

EPA established a Community Advisory Group (CAG) in January 2000 to provide a forum for communication on issues related to the investigation and cleanup of asbestos in Libby and the Community Medical Testing. This forum is also an opportunity for all parties to

#### 4.0

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#### **Community Involvement Plan Objectives and Strategies**

Page 2 of 2

clarify roles of the various interested groups and individuals. The CAG will be comprised of private citizens and federal State, and local agencies. Agency members and their anticipated roles and responsibilities roles are as follows:

- EPA The federal agency responsible for implementing and enforcing environmental laws and regulations aimed at protecting public health and the environment. EPA will be the lead agency responsible for the sampling and cleanup activities related to asbestos contamination in Libby.
- Montana Department of Environmental Quality The Department of the State of Montana responsible for ensuring protection of the environment.
   MDEQ will provide input to EPA on sampling and cleanup activities for the areas of Libby that are affected by asbestos contamination.
- U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry The federal agency
  responsible for assessing public health threats related to hazardous waste sites
  and for responding to public health concerns expressed at those sites. ATDSR
  will provide input to EPA on sampling and cleanup activities for the areas of
  Libby affected by asbestos contamination. MEDICAL TESTING
- Lincoln County Department of Environmental Health The Lincoln County
  Department of Environmental Health is responsible for addressing county local
  public health issues. The Lincoln County Department of Environmental Health
  will provide input to EPA on sampling and cleanup activities for the areas of
  Libby that are affected by asbestos contamination. May want to add them to
  Section 1

# 4.3 Formally Involve Local Officials and Other Community Representatives

EPA's objective is to formally involve local officials and other community representatives in the Superfund process and maintain ongoing, two-way communication with the community. Community leaders and representatives of local organizations have expressed an interest in EPA communicating regularly with them, informing them in advance of major decisions or events, and formally inviting them to public meetings and other public activities. To accomplish this objective, EPA will make an effort to formalize communication of EPA site activities. EPA will continue to offer the community opportunities to participate actively in CAG meetings.

#### 4.4 Comply with CERCLA/SARA Requirements

EPA's objective is to comply with the CERCLA/SARA requirements. In addition to the above activities, others will be planned specifically to meet the community relations requirements under CERCLA/SARA. A detailed description of these activities is found in the Section 5.0 of this CIP.

### **Community Involvement Activities**

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This section describe the community involvement activities the EPA plans to conduct during the course of the removal action. These activities are designed to provide information to community members and provide opportunities for them to be involved in the decision making process. The EPA is currently the lead government agency in the remediation of the Libby Site. As such, EPA will ensure full public participation in the Superfund cleanup process. Many of the activities listed below have been implemented prior to the publication of this CIP. These activities include those required by CERCLA/SARA. In addition, other site-specific support activities are important tools for keeping the community informed and involved. These site-specific activities will be implemented in response to community input and requests.

#### 5.1 Activities Required By CERCLA/SARA

The EPA will perform the following community involvement activities at the Libby Site as required by CERCLA/SARA for a time critical removal action lasting longer than 120 days:

- Designate a spokesperson;
- Notify affected citizens;
- Establish Administrative Record file and information repositories;
- Provide public comment period;
- Prepare Responsiveness Summary;
- Conduct community interviews; and
- Prepare and Revise Community Involvement Plan.

A discussion of each of these activities follows.

#### Designate a Spokesperson

EPA will designate a spokesperson in a timely manner to inform the community of actions taken, respond to inquiries, and provide information concerning the release of hazardous substances.

#### **Notify Affected Citizens**

The EPA designated spokesperson will notify promptly the citizens immediately affected by the release, as well as appropriate State and local officials.

#### **Establish Administrative Record File and Information Repositories**

EPA will establish an Administrative Record and Site information repositories. The Administrative Record will be housed at the EPA Superfund Records Center in Denver, CO. The information repositories will be located at the EPA Information Center in Libby, MT. These repositories contain basic site information, documents on site activities, technical site documents, this CIP, and general information about the Superfund program all for public review. EPA will place a notice in local newspapers of general circulation that notifies the public of the availability of the Administrative Record file and identifies the various

#### 5.0

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#### **Community Involvement Activities**

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information repository locations and the hours of availability. The Administrative Record and information repositories will be updated as necessary.

#### **Provide Public Comment Period ?????**

The public will be provided an opportunity to review and submit written and oral comments on the alternatives presented in the Proposed Plan. EPA will issue news releases and display ads to announce the dates of the comment periods, the dates and locations of any public meetings, the information or documents available for review, locations of information repositoires, and the procedures for submitting comments. If interest warrants, EPA will hold one or more public meetings during each comment period to provide information and receive public comments.

#### **Prepare Responsiveness Summary ?????**

EPA will prepare responses to all significant written or oral comments, criticisms, or new data submitted during the public comment period. Theses responses will be published in a Responsiveness Summary that will be available for public review in the Administrative Record for the Site.

#### **Conduct Community Interviews**

EPA will interview local officials, community residents, public interest groups and other interested parties to identify the community's specific information needs and concerns and to determine the ways in which residents would like to become involved in the Superfund process.

#### **Prepare and Revise Community Involvement Plan**

EPA is required to prepare this CIP for all removal actions lasting longer than 120 days. EPA will use information obtained in the community interviews to develop this CIP. This CIP will be used by EPA in conducting community involvement activities as part of the Superfund process.

EPA will review this CIP and revise it, if necessary, to address issues and concerns that may arise during the removal action. Each revision will update the information provided in the current CIP, assess the effectiveness of approaches used for community involvement to the date of the revision, and propose a strategy for keeping the community informed and involved. Community interviews will be held, if appropriate, before the CIP is revised.

#### 5.2 Site-Specific Support Activities

In addition to the community involvement activities described above, EPA considers the following community involvement activities important to provide meaningful input to the ongoing site activities.

- Prepare fact sheets and site activity updates;
- Issue press releases;

## **Community Involvement Activities**

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- Coordinate workshops, small group meetings, availability sessions, and meetings with individuals;
- Brief local officials;

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- Attend public informational meetings;
- Issue public notices; and
- Maintain accurate mailing list.

The full extent of these site-specific support activities will depend on resources available. A brief discussion of each of these activities follows.

#### **Prepare Fact Sheets and Site Activity Updates**

EPA Community Involvement Coordinator's will produce a variety of fact sheets for publication and distribution. These fact sheets may vary from an informal paragraph for a school or church flyer, to a four-page summary of a specific topic. In all cases, EPA and other stakeholders will benefit from having many people review the fact sheets for accuracy, readability, and visual appeal. The EPA is open to suggestions from the CAG and the general public on topics to write about based on their relevancy to the Site activities and their priority to the general public. With so many people reviewing fact sheets, an efficient process is necessary in order to get the documents completed and distributed in a timely way. EPA will work on streamlining this process with the CAG.

EPA will prepare fact sheets and activity updates describing activities and other relevant information about the Libby Site as necessary. These materials will be distributed to those on the mailing list and will also be available to the general public through the information repositories.

#### **Issue Press Releases**

The EPA will issue press releases to make an official statement at milestones in the removal program, such as key project dates, major decisions, or completion of cleanup actions. It is EPA's policy not to negotiate the timing or content of a press release. However, in an effort to communicate openly with affected stakeholders, the EPA has outlined the following process for notifying members of the CAG of press activities related to the Site. EPA will:

- Send all press releases related to the Libby Site to the CAG at the same time it sends the release to the press. To accomplish this, EPA will set up a process to use when it sends notices about, and copies of, press releases. The process may include a mixture of phone calls and/or messages and distribution of copies at CAG meetings or via facsimile, electronic-mail and/or U.S. Mail.
- Try to give CAG members a half day "heads-up" notice of an upcoming press release.
- Alert the CAG members about an event that is coming up which may generate media interest and/or a press release. EPA will set up an update process that will include these alerts. EPA will do this, when possible, by providing updates

#### 5.0

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#### **Community Involvement Activities**

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- about upcoming site activities, including potential media contacts, as a regular part of the CAG meetings.
- Notify anyone whose name is given to the press about that fact immediately, which means at the same time or before EPA releases the person's name or contact information. To simplify this, EPA will work with the members to develop a list of people who are willing to have their names released to the media.

## Coordinate Workshops, Small Group Meetings, Availability Sessions, and Meetings with Individuals

If necessary, specialized information, such as presentations on sampling or risk assessment study findings, will be presented in workshops, small group meetings, or availability sessions. Availability sessions make it possible for EPA to get immediate feedback from the public on site specific issues or for interested parties to discuss their concerns on a person-to-person basis. When possible, EPA will share information with residents through door-to-door contact, particularly during field work such as sampling or cleanup.

#### **Brief Local Officials**

EPA will inform local officials of key events and activities. Formal notification of key events and activities and advance information on decisions and events are important to local officials. EPA's recent efforts in this regard have been effective according to interviewees and, therefore, should be continued.

#### **Attend Public Informational Meetings**

Meetings with the community should provide an effective forum for presentation and exchange of information. EPA will consider using the community forum or independent arrangements for meetings to periodically present significant information to the community and to get comments from the public. Effort will be made to present materials in a non-technical format and provide opportunities for interaction with meeting attendees to ensure that the information is understood. Such meetings also could be used to present a wide variety of information updates or to give slide shows or videotape presentations on site activities.

#### **Issue Public Notices**

As needed, EPA will issue public notices to provide an official announcement of EPA activities and plans, and to encourage public involvement in Agency decisions. EPA will publish these notices in the *Montanian* and the *Western News*.

#### **Maintain Accurate Mailing List**

EPA will maintain an accurate mailing list of affected parties to disseminate information directly.

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## 7.0 Resources

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This section summarizes the information contained in the appendices attached to this report. These appendices contain specific reference information that will be used by the EPA when conducting community involvement activities at the VB/I-70 Site. They are as follows:

- Appendix A Contacts: This Appendix contains the information necessary to contact parties associated with the VB/I-70 Site. Contact information includes the available addresses, telephone numbers, facsimile numbers, and e-mail addresses of various contacts. Contacts include such parties as federal, state, and local agency officials, neighborhood associations, and community groups.
- Appendix B Information Repositories: This Appendix lists the addresses of the various information repositories.
- Appendix C Community Resource Centers: This Appendix contains address
  and contact information for various local resources centers. Resource centers
  include such facilities as recreation centers, churches, senior centers, and
  hospitals or clinics.
- Appendix D Local Media: This appendix contains essential local media information, such as the address, contact, and publication schedule information.
- Appendix E Public Meeting Locations: This Appendix contains information
  on available meeting locations, such as meeting place capacity, hours of
  availability, location, and cost.
- Appendix F Community Interview Questionnaire: This Appendix contains the community interview questionnaire form used by EPA to identify the VB/I-70 Site communities' concerns associated with remedial activities.

## Libby, Montana: Contact Information

Contact Category	Program or Office	Contact Name/ Contact Title	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address
	Ecosystems Protection and Remediation	Max Dodson/ Assistant Regional Administrator	999 18 <sup>th</sup> Street Suite 500 (8EPR) Denver, CO 80202-2466	303-312-6598/ 303-312-6897	dodson.max@epa.gov
		Doug Skie/ Director	999 18 <sup>th</sup> Street Suite 500 (8EPR-SA) Denver, CO 80202-2466	303-312-6827/ 303-312-6071	skie.douglas@epa.gov
	Preparedness,	Paul Peronard/ On-Scene Coordinator	999 18 <sup>th</sup> Street Suite 500 (8EPR-SA) Denver, CO 80202-2466	1-800-227-8917 ext. 6808 or 303-312- 6808/303-312-6071	peronard.paul@epa.gov
U.S. Environmental	Assessment and Emergency Response	Johanna Miller/ On-Scene Coordinator	999 18 <sup>th</sup> Street Suite 500 (8EPR-SA) Denver, CO 80202-2466	1-800-277-8917 ext. 6804 or 303-312- 6804/303-312-6071	miller.johanna@epa.gov
Protection Agency		Duc Nguyen/ On-Scene Coordinator	999 18 <sup>th</sup> Street Suite 500 (8EPR-SA) Denver, CO 80202-2466	303-312-6509/ 303-312-6071	nguyen.duc@epa.gov
	1 7777	Dr. Chris Weis/ Regional Toxicologist	999 18 <sup>th</sup> Street Suite 500 (8EPR-PS) Denver, CO 80202-2466	1-800-277-8917 ext. 6671 or 303-312- 6671/ 303-312-6897	weis.chris@epamail.epa.g <u>ov</u>
	Superfund Community Involvement	Wendy Thomi/ Community Involvement Coordinator	8MO USEPA Region 8 Montana Office 301 South Park Drawer 10096 Helena, MT 59626-0096	406-441-1150 x241/ 406-441-1126	thomi.wendy@epa.gov

## Libby, Montana: Contact Information

Contact Category	Program or Office	Contact Name/ Contact Title	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address
	Superfund Community Involvement	Diana Hammer/ Community Involvement Coordinator	999 18 <sup>th</sup> Street Suite 500 (8OC) Denver, CO 80202-2466	303-312-6601/ 303-312-6961	hammer.diana@epa.gov
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	Superfund Remedial Response Program	John Wardell	8MO USEPA Region 8 Montana Operations Office Federal Building 301 South Park Drawer 10096 Helena, MT 59626-0096	406-441-1123	wardell.john@epa.gov
	Legal Program	Matthew Cohn/ CERCLA Attorney	999 18 <sup>th</sup> Street Suite 500 (8ENF-L) Denver, CO 80202-2466	303-312-6853/ 303-312-6953	cohn.matthew@epa.gov
Agency for Toxic Substances and	Regional	Susan Muza/ Health Scientist	999 18 <sup>th</sup> Street	303-312-7011/ 303-312-7018/	muza.susan@epa.gov
Disease Registry (ATSDR)	Representatives	Chris Poulet/ Health Scientist	Suite 500 (8ATSDR) Denver, CO 80202-2466	303-312-7013/ 303-312-7018	poulet.chris@epa.gov
Montana Department of Environmental Quality	Hazardous Waste and Site Cleanup Bureau	John Constan/ Project Manager	Metcalf Building Office 1520 E. Sixth Avenue P.O. Box 200901 Helena, MT 59620	406-444-1438/ 406-444-1901	jconstan@state.mt.us
Montana Department of Environmental Quality	Director's Office	Tom Ellerhoff/ Administrative Officer	Metcalf Building Office 1520 E. Sixth Avenue P.O. Box 200901 Helena, MT 59620	406-444-5263/ 406-444-4386	tellerhoff@state.mt.us

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## Libby, Montana: Contact Information

Contact Category	Program or Office	Contact Name/ Contact Title	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address
	Director's Office	Dan Rapkoch/ Communications	Metcalf Building Office 1520 E. Sixth Avenue P.O. Box 200901 Helena, MT 59620	406-444-2929/ 406-444-4386	drapkoch@state.mt.us
Montana Department of	<del></del>	Todd Damrow/ Epidemiologist	117 Commerce Way Libby, MT 59923	406-444-3986/ 406-293-5549	tdamrow@state.mt.us
Public Health and Human Services		Mike Spence/ Medical Officer	117 Commerce Way Libby, MT 59923	406-444-1286	mspence@state.mt.us
Lincoln County Environmental		Ron Anderson/ Director	418 Main Libby, MT 59923 or P.O. Box 2012 Eureka, MT 59917	406-293-7781 ext. 228/ 406-293-9284	<u>ledeh@libby.org</u>
Health Department		Brad Black/ County Medical Officer	418 Main Libby, MT 59923 or P.O. Box 2012 Eureka, MT 59917	406-293-7781 ext. 228/ 406-293-9284	<u>bblack@libby.org</u>

## Libby, Montana: Media

Publication Name/ Website	Mailing Address	Contact Name/ Contact Title	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address	Days of Publication	Costs	Ad Deadline
The Western News/ www.libby.org/WesternNews/ welcome.html	P.O. Box 1377 Libby, MT 59923	Roger Morris/ Editor	(406) 293-4124	rmorris@westnews	Tuesday and Thursday		
Montanian/ www.libby.org/montanian	P.O. Box 946 312 Mineral Ave. Libby, MT 59923	David F. Latham/ Ad Manager	(406) 293-8202	montanian@libby.org	Tuesday		1 p.m. Monday
The Tobacco Valley News/ www.tobaccovalleynews.com	602 Dewey Ave, Eureka, MT 59917	Steve Newman	(406) 296-2514/ (406) 296-2515	·			
The Daily Interlake/ www.dailyinterlake.com	P.O. Box 7610 727 E. Idaho Kalispell, MT 59904	Lynette Hintze/ Reporter	(406) 755-7000/ (406) 752-6114			prepaid w/ credit card (M or V)	5 p.m 3 days before publication date
The Missoulian/ www.missoulian.com	P.O. Box 8029 500 S. Higgins Missoula, MT 59807	Michael Moore	(406) 523-5252 or 1-800-366- 7186/ (406) 523- 5294				

Contact Name	Title/Organization	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address	CAG Function
Ron Anderson	Lincoln County Environmental. Health Department	418 Mineral Ave. Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-7781 Ext. 228/ (406) 293-5340	<u>lcdeh@libby.org</u>	Member
Kerry Beasley	Board Chair, St. Johns Lutheran Hospital	P.O. Box 726 Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-3325	beasley@libby.org	Member
Linda Beaulieu	Chamber of Commerce	P.O. Box 704 Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-4167/ (406) 293-2197	libbyacclinbeau23@yahoo.com	Member
Gayla Benefield	Lincoln County Asbestos Victims Relief Organization	245 Cedar Meadow Rd. Libby, MT 59923		gaylab@libby.org	Member
Anthony J. Berget	Mayor, City of Libby	952 East Spruce Street P.O. Box 1428 Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-1776 (cell) (406) 293-2731(city hall)/ (406) 293-4090	aberget@libby.org	Member
Dr. Brad Black	Lincoln County Health Officer	136 Cedar Street Extension Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-1252/ (406) 293-3045	bblack@libby.org	Member
Grayson Casey	Realtor, Kootenai Homes and Land Realty	12 Hamann Ave. Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-3752/ (406) 293-3012	realty@libby.org	Member
Susan Feedback	Realtor, Kootenai Homes and Land Realty	P.O. Box 1282 Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-6151/ (406) 293-3012	realty@libby.org	Alternate Member

Contact Name	Title/Organization	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address	CAG Function
John Konzen	Lincoln County Commissioner	P.O.Box 449 Troy, MT 59935	(406) 295-4420/ (406) 293-8577	jkonzen@libby.org	Member
David Latham	Editor, The Montanian	P.O. Box 946 Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-8202/ (406) 293-8202 (call first)	montanian@libby.org	Member
Cyrus Lee	Kootenai Valley Headstart	712 Louisiana Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-4502/ (406) 293-8254	kvhstart@libby.org	Member
Kirby Maki	Superintendent/ Libby School District	724 Louisiana Ave. Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-8811/ (406) 293-8812	kwmaki@libby.org	Member
Wally Moreau	Former W.R. Grace employee	400 Quartz Rd. Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-4580		Member
Rick Palagi	CEO, St. Johns Lutheran Hospital Inc.	350 Louisiana Ave. Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-7761/ (406) 293-4428	rpalagi@sjlh.com	Member
Norita Skramstad	Asbestos Victims	3647 S. Hwy 2 Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-6602		Member
Mike Switzer	Retired W.R. Grace employee	550 Arabian Lane Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-2512	mswitzer@libby.org	Member
Leroy Thom	Former Union President	143 Park St. Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-8731 (work) (406) 293-9174 (home)/ (406) 293-8733		Member

Contact Name	Title/Organization	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address	CAG Function
Bob Tunis/ Director	Economic Development Council, Inc.	P.O. Box 621 Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-8406 (406) 293-3222	rtunis@libby.org	Member
Don Wilkins	Lumber and Sawmill Workers #2581	P.O. Box 335 Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-5095	wilkins@libby.org	Member
Lloyd Douglas Williamson	Тахрауег	643 Sheldon Flats Rd. Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-7079	<del></del>	Member
Wilbur Wilson	President/Lincoln County Council on Ageing	205 W. Spruce St. Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-3889	wilson@libby.org	Member
Rita Windom	Lincoln County Commissioner	512 California Ave. Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-7781 ext. 208/ (406) 293-8577	rwindom@libby.org	Member
Bob Zimmerman	Cabinet Resource Group	519 E. Lincoln Blvd. Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-6942/ (406) 293- 4756	bobz@lclink.com	Member
Paul Peronard	On-Scene Coordinator/U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	U.S. EPA Region 8 (8EPR-SA) 999 18 <sup>th</sup> St.; Suite 500 Denver, CO 80202-2466	(303) 312-6808 (office) (303) 886-1638 (cell) 1-800-227-8917 x 6808/ (303) 312-6071 (fax)	peronard.paul@epa.gov	CAG Resource
Linda Newstrom	EPA Information Center	501 Mineral Avenue Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-6194/ (406) 293-5668	cdmfed_newstrom@yahoo.com	CAG Resource

Contact Name	Title/Organization	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address	CAG Function
Wendy Thomi	Community Involvement Coordinator/U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	U.S. EPA Region 8 - Montana Office 301 S. Park, Drawer 10096 Helena, MT 59626-0096	(406) 441-1150x241/ (406) 441-1126	thomi.wendy@epa.gov	CAG Resource
Diana Hammer	Community Involvement Coordinator/U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	U.S. EPA Region 8 (80C) 999 18th St.; Suite 500 Denver, CO 80020	1(800) 227-8917x6601/ (303) 312-6961	hammer.diana@epa.gov	CAG Resource
John Constan	Project Manager/ Montana Department of Environmental Quality	2209 Phoenix Avenue Helena, MT 59620	(406) 444-1438/ (406) 444-1901	jconstan@state.mt.us	CAG Resource
Maria Teran- MacIver	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry	1600 Clifton Rd. (E-56) Atlanta, GA 30333	(404) 639-0649/ (404) 639-4699	mnt0@cdc.gov	CAG Resource
Alan Stringer	W.R. Grace & Co.	317 Mineral Avenue Libby, MT 59923	(406) 293-3964 (406) 293-3749	·	CAG Resource
Gerald Mueller	Facilitator/ Consensus Associates	7165 Old Grant Creek Rd. Missoula, MT 59808	(406) 543-0026/ (406) 549-9455	mueller@bigsky.com	CAG Facilitator
Mike Giesey	Alternate Facilitator	8555 Bull Lake Rd. Troy, MT 59935	(406) 295-3058		CAG Alternate Facilitator

## Libby, Montana: Elected Government

Contact Category	Association or Department	Contact Name/ Contact Title	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address
	U.S. Congress	Conrad Burns/ U.S. Senator	187 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510	202-224-2644 or 1-800-344-1513/ 202-224-8594 Fax/ TDD 202-224-8616	conrad_burns@burns.senate. gov
Federal Government	U.S. Congress	Max Baucus/ U.S. Senator	United States Senate 511 Hart Building Washington, D.C. 20510 or Kalispell Office 220 1st Avenue East Kalispell, MT 59901	202-224-2651 or 1-800-332-6106 or 406-756-1150 TDD 202-224-1998	max@baucus.senate.gov
	U.S. Congress	Rick Hill/ U.S. Representative	Washington, D.C. Office 1609 Longworth HOB Washington, DC 20515 or Missoula District Office 200 East Broadway Missoula, MT 59802	202-225-3211 or 406-543-9550/ 202-225-5687 Fax	Rick.Hill@mail.house.gov
	Governor of Montana	Marc Racicot/ Governor	State Capitol Helena, MT 59620-0801	406-444-3111 TDD 406-444-3607	
State Government	Montana State Congress	William S. Crismore/ State Senator District 41	237 Airfield Road Libby, MT 59923	406-293-7405	crismore@libby.org
	Montana State Congress	Scott J. Orr/ State Representative District 82	PO Box 1318 Libby, MT 59923	406-293-3711	sjorr@libby.org

## Libby, Montana: Elected Government

Contact Category	Association or Department	Contact Name/ Contact Title	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address
	Lincoln County Commissioners	Marianne Roose/ County Commissioner (Eureka)	512 California Avenue Libby, MT 59923-1942	406-293-7781 ext. 207 Libby 406-296-3039 Eureka 406-296-4420 Troy 406-293-8577 Fax	<del></del>
County Government	Lincoln County Commissioners	Rita Windom/ County Commissioner (Libby)	512 California Avenue Libby, MT 59923-1942	406-293-7781 ext. 207 Libby 406-296-3039 Eureka 406-296-4420 Troy 406-293-8577 Fax	rwindom@libby.org
	Lincoln County Commissioners	John Konzen/ County Commissioner (Troy)	512 California Avenue Libby, MT 59923-1942	406-293-7781 ext. 207 Libby 406-296-3039 Eureka 406-296-4420 Troy 406-293-8577 Fax	jkonzen@libby.org
	Mayor of Libby	Anthony J. Berget/ Mayor	952 East Spruce Street P.O. Box 1428 Libby, MT 59923	406-293-2731	aberget@libby.org
	Libby City Council	George Bauer/ Council Member	952 East Spruce Street P.O. Box 1428 Libby, MT 59923	406-293-2731	gbnt@libby.org
City Government	Libby City Council	Joe Johnston/ Council Member	952 East Spruce Street P.O. Box 1428 Libby, MT 59923	406-293-2731	pioneer@lclink.com
	Libby City Council	Judy Porter/ Council Member	952 East Spruce Street P.O. Box 1428 Libby, MT 59923	406-293-2731	porter@libby.org

## Libby, Montana: Elected Government

Contact Category	Association or Department	Contact Name/ Contact Title	Mailing Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Email Address
	Libby City Council	Ken Sorenson/ Council Member	952 East Spruce Street P.O. Box 1428 Libby, MT 59923	406-293-2731	kesoren@libby.org
	Libby City Council	Dan Stephens/ Council Member	952 East Spruce Street P.O. Box 1428 Libby, MT 59923	406-293-2731	lva1@lclink.com
	Libby City Council	Jane Thom/ Council Member	952 East Spruce Street P.O. Box 1428 Libby, MT 59923	406-293-2731	thom@libby.org

## Libby, Montana: Information Repositories

Information Repository Name	Street Address	Contact Name/ Contact Title	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Hours of Operation
EPA Information Center	501 Mineral Avenue Libby, MT 59923	Linda Newstrom	(406) 293-6194	Monday 8:30-5:00 pm Tuesday 12:00-8:00 pm Wednesday 8:30-5:00 pm Thursday 8:30-5:00 pm Friday 8:30-5:00 pm
U.S. EPA Records Center	999 18 <sup>th</sup> Street North Terrace 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor Denver, CO 80202-2405	???/ Site Manager	(303)-312-6473	Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
			<u></u>	

## **Libby, Montana: Meeting Locations**

Meeting Location	Street Address	Phone Number/ Facsimile Number	Contact Name/ Contact Title	Capacity (no. of people)	Hours of Operation	Cost
Ponderosa Room Libby City Hall	953 E. Spruce St. Libby, MT 59923	406-293-2731	Beth		·	\$40.00
City Council Chambers						